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Subject: Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update

Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 6:42:03 PM



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

Weekly Wednesday Update

*Our Mission:
To improve oral health
in Kansas through
advocacy,
public awareness
and education.*

Volume 5, Issue 2

January 22, 2014

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Dental Champions Corner

Three conclude OHK Board Terms

At the end of December, we said goodbye to three long-time Board members. Marlou Wegener and Douglas Stuckey each served for six years, and Karen Finstad served for seven. Marlou served as the Board Secretary and Vice President, as well as the Chair of the Communications and Conference Planning Committees. Douglas served as the Board Treasurer and Chair of the Board Development Committee. Karen served as Board Secretary and President, and as Chair of the Conference Planning and Development Committees. Each also is an alumnus of the Dental Champions Leadership Program.

The impact each has had on Oral Health Kansas is immeasurable. They are fiercely dedicated to the mission and vision of our organization and fought tirelessly to promote oral health among a wide range of stakeholders.

It is hard to say goodbye to such steadfast supporters, but we part as friends, and the organization is better for having been served by them. Thank you, Marlou, Douglas and Karen!

House Bill 2372 challenges water fluoridation



Congratulations to Jodi Schmidt (Class 3) for being featured in the Kansas Health Institute's recent news story about the importance of Medicaid Expansion in Kansas.

[Recent News Story](#)



**Did
You
Know...**

The average adult between the ages of 20 and 64 has three or more decayed or missing teeth? Read more at [Mouth Healthy](#) by the ADA.

Join Our Mailing List!

The legislative session is in full swing and oral health is on the docket, just not the way we would like.

[HB 2372](#) is

scheduled for a hearing in the House Health and Human Services Committee on February 5th at 1:30 pm. The bill requires cities and other entities that fluoridate drinking water to notify consumers "that the latest science confirms that ingested fluoride lowers the I.Q. in children." Though blatantly false, if passed, the bill could have a detrimental effect on community water fluoridation statewide. We need your help to kill the bill! Please email or call your representative to voice your opposition to HB 2372. For more information about how to do so, [click here](#). In-person support during the committee meeting is also crucial. Please contact us if you plan to come to Topeka:

mforeman@oralhealthkansas.org Thank you for your continued support!



OHK welcomes new staff member

This month, Oral Health Kansas is very pleased to welcome Caroline Stern as our new Office and Communications Manager. Caroline is a recent graduate of the University of Denver and is a future dental school student. She has a wealth of experience in public and private dental clinics and has served as a translator and health care volunteer in Chile and Honduras. She is eager to share her passion for oral health with Oral Health Kansas.

Caroline volunteered with Oral Health Kansas throughout the fall of 2013, including helping with our conference and setting up a host of social media for our new website www.fluoridekansas.org. Her knowledge and enthusiasm are welcome additions to the Oral Health Kansas team. Please join us in welcoming her to our family! [E-mail Caroline here.](#)

Sugary drink displays being reserved for 2014



We are now taking reservations to loan out our Sugary Drink Displays for 2014. Displays are loaned for a month at a time and shipping will be covered by Oral Health Kansas. If you are interested in reserving a display, [e-mail Caroline here](#).

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please contact us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.

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